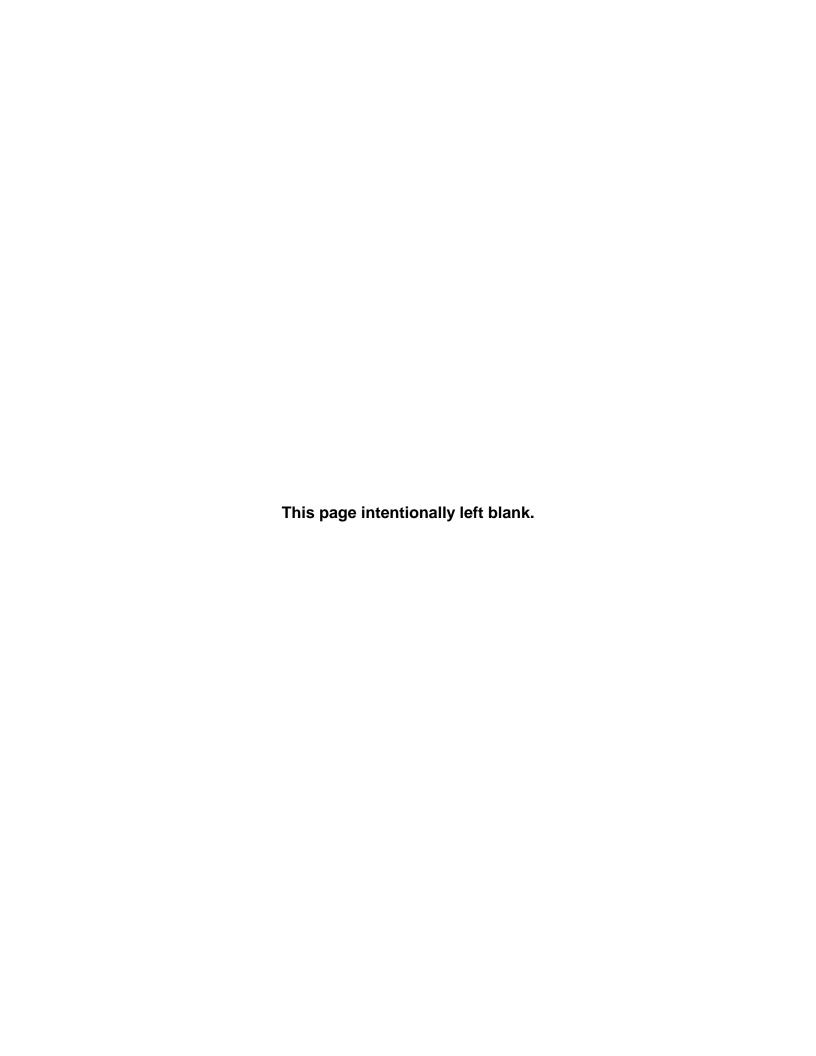




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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Hanover Township Ashland County 3004 Co Road 3-A Loudonville, Ohio 44842

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Hanover Township, Ashland County, Ohio, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Township's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As discussed in Note 1, the Township prepares its financial statements on the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances of the Township as of December 31, 2002 and 2001, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated May 28, 2003 on our consideration of the Township's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

111 Second St., NW / Fourth Floor / Canton, OH 44702 Telephone: (330) 438-0617 (800) 443-9272 Fax: (330) 471-0001 www.auditor.state.oh.us Hanover Township Ashland County Independent Accountants' Report Page 2

Butty Montgomery

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the audit committee, management, the Board of Trustees and other officials authorized to receive this report under § 117.26, Ohio Revised Code, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

May 28, 2003

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES - ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2002

	Governmental Fund Types			
	General	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:				
Local Taxes	\$15,378	\$51,441		\$66,819
Intergovernmental	28,083	87,920		116,003
Earnings on Investments	92	141		233
Other	869	2,469		3,338
Total Cash Receipts	44,422	141,971		186,393
Cash Disbursements:				
Current:				
General Government	27,532			27,532
Public Safety	44.0=0	10,066		10,066
Public Works	11,372	113,074		124,446
Health	849			849
Debt Service:			CO 474	0.474
Redemption of Principal			\$8,174	8,174
Interest and Fiscal Charges		1 /10	1,329	1,329
Capital Outlay		1,418		1,418
Total Cash Disbursements	39,753	124,558	9,503	173,814
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	4,669	17,413	(9,503)	12,579
Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements):				
Transfers-In			9,503	9,503
Transfers-Out	(929)	(8,574)		(9,503)
Other Sources	23			23
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)	(906)	(8,574)	9,503	23
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing				
Receipts Over Cash Disbursements	2.762	0.020		10.600
and Other Financing Disbursements	3,763	8,839		12,602
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	6,725	27,570		34,295
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$10,488	\$36,409	\$0	\$46,897

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES - ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2001

	Governmental Fund Types			
	General	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:				
Local Taxes	\$14,863	\$48,279		\$63,142
Intergovernmental	22,873	80,648		103,521
Earnings on Investments	221	413		634
Other	1,332	2,736		4,068
Total Cash Receipts	39,289	132,076		171,365
Cash Disbursements:				
Current:				
General Government	26,892			26,892
Public Safety	44.000	9,616		9,616
Public Works	11,000	117,289		128,289
Health	864			864
Debt Service:			#7.007	7.007
Redemption of Principal			\$7,607	7,607
Interest and Fiscal Charges	4 000	4 560	1,896	1,896
Capital Outlay	4,000	4,562		8,562
Total Cash Disbursements	42,756	131,467	9,503	183,726
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	(3,467)	609	(9,503)	(12,361)
Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements):				
Transfers-In			9,503	9,503
Transfers-Out		(9,503)		(9,503)
Other Sources	890			890
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)	890	(9,503)	9,503	890
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts (Under) Cash Disbursements				
and Other Financing Disbursements	(2,577)	(8,894)		(11,471)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	9,302	36,464		45,766
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$6,725	\$27,570	\$0	\$34,295

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

Hanover Township, Ashland County, (the Township) is a body corporate and politic established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The Township is directed by a publicly-elected, three-member Board of Trustees. The Township provides road and bridge maintenance. The Township contracts with the Village of Perrysville and the Village of Loudonville to provide fire protection and emergency medical services.

The Township's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Township is financially accountable.

B. Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting. Receipts are recognized when received in cash rather than when earned, and disbursements are recognized when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved).

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State.

C. Cash

Certificates of deposit are valued at cost.

D. Fund Accounting

The Township uses fund accounting to segregate cash and investments that are restricted as to use. The Township classifies its funds into the following types:

1. General Fund

The General Fund is the general operating fund. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

2. Special Revenue Funds

These funds are used to account for proceeds from specific sources (other than from trusts or for capital projects) that are restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. The Township has the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

Road and Bridge Fund - This fund receives property taxes and intergovernmental receipts for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township roads and bridges.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001 (Continued)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

D. Fund Accounting (Continued)

2. Special Revenue Funds (Continued)

Gasoline Tax Fund - This fund receives gasoline tax money to pay for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township roads.

3. Debt Service Funds

The debt service fund is used to accumulate resources for the payment of bonds and note indebtedness. The Township has the following significant Debt Service Fund:

Note Retirement Fund - This fund is used to account for the retirement of Township notes.

E. Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund be budgeted annually.

1. Appropriations

Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the object level of control, which is the Township's legal level of control, and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Board of Trustees must annually approve the appropriation measure and subsequent amendments. The County Budget Commission must also approve the annual appropriation measure. Appropriations lapse at year end.

2. Estimated Resources

Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus cash as of January 1. The County Budget Commission must also approve estimated resources.

3. Encumbrances

The Ohio Revised Code requires the Township to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are canceled, and reappropriated in the subsequent year.

A summary of 2002 and 2001 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

F. Property, Plant and Equipment

Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment are recorded as capital outlay disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets on the accompanying financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001 (Continued)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

G. Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. Unpaid leave is not reflected as a liability under the Township's basis of accounting.

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH

The Township maintains a cash pool used by all funds. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of cash at December 31 was as follows:

	2002	2001
Demand deposits	\$44,772	\$32,214
Certificates of deposit	2,125	2,081
Total deposits	\$46,897	\$34,295

Deposits: Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation.

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001 follows:

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$39,183	\$44,445	\$5,262
Special Revenue	123,701	141,971	18,270
Debt Service	9,503	9,503	0
Total	\$172,387	\$195,919	\$23,532

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

<u> </u>		
Appropriation	Budgetary	
Authority	Expenditures	Variance
\$45,906	\$40,682	\$5,224
151,272	133,132	18,140
9,503	9,503	0
\$206,681	\$183,317	\$23,364
	Appropriation Authority \$45,906 151,272 9,503	Authority Expenditures \$45,906 \$40,682 151,272 133,132 9,503 9,503

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001 (Continued)

3. **BUDGETARY ACTIVITY (Continued)**

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$40,579	\$40,179	(\$400)
Special Revenue	131,062	132,076	1,014
Debt Service	9,503	9,503	0
Total	\$181,144	\$181,758	\$614

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$49,881	\$42,756	\$7,125
Special Revenue	167,526	140,970	26,556
Debt Service	9,503	9,503	0
Total	\$226,910	\$193,229	\$33,681

4. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which rates are adopted by the Board of Trustees. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable homestead and rollback deductions. Homestead and rollback amounts are then paid by the State, and are reflected in the accompanying financial statements as Intergovernmental Receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to make semiannual payments, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

Public utilities are also taxed on personal and real property located within the Township.

Tangible personal property tax is assessed by the property owners, who must file a list of such property to the County by each April 30.

The County is responsible for assessing property, and for billing, collecting, and distributing all property taxes on behalf of the Township.

5. DEBT

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2002 was as follows:

	Principal	Interest Rate
General Obligation Notes	\$14,219	5.85%

The general obligation note was issued in the amount of \$40,000 to finance the purchase of a new dump truck to be used for Township road maintenance.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001 (Continued)

5. DEBT (Continued)

Amortization of the above debt, including interest, is scheduled as follows:

	General Obligation Note
Year ending December 31:	
2003	\$9,503
2004	9,503
Total	\$19,006
2003	

6. RETIREMENT SYSTEM

The Township's employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. This plan provides retirement benefits, including postretirement healthcare, and survivor and disability benefits to participants as prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code.

Contribution rates are also prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code. For 2002 and 2001, members of OPERS contributed 8.5% of their gross salaries. The Township contributed an amount equal to 13.55% of participants' gross salaries for 2002 and 2001. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2002.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Township has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

- Comprehensive property and general liability;
- Vehicles:
- Public officials liability; and
- Employer's liability.

The Township also provides health insurance to one full-time employee through a private carrier.

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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Hanover Township Ashland County 3004 Co Road 3-A Loudonville, Ohio 44842

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Hanover Township, Ashland, Ohio, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001, and have issued our report thereon dated May 28, 2003. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Township's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*. However, we noted certain immaterial instances of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the Township in a separate letter dated May 28, 2003.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Township's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses.

111 Second St., NW / Fourth Floor / Canton, OH 44702 Telephone: (330) 438-0617 (800) 443-9272 Fax: (330) 471-0001 www.auditor.state.oh.us Hanover Township
Ashland County
Independent Accountants' Report on Compliance and on Internal Control
Required by *Government Auditing Standards*Page 2

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the audit committee, management, and the Board of Trustees, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

Butty Montgomery

May 28, 2003



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Facsimile 614-466-4490

HANOVER TOWNSHIP

ASHLAND COUNTY

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

This is a true and correct copy of the report which is required to be filed in the Office of the Auditor of State pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in Columbus, Ohio.

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

Susan Babbitt

CERTIFIED JULY 1, 2003